To the Editor:

What was the point of Steve Wheatman's column on meeting a Playboy Bunny who is also (incredibly?) a Mensan ['Meeting a Mensan - who is also a Playboy mode, Oct. 18']? It made MIT students, who supposedly have a hard time meeting members of the opposite sex, seem like frustrated baboons in heat, titillated by Playboy magazine in the solitude of their rooms.

The "reporter's" implicit astonishment that brains and beauty could be combined in an MIT student is insulting to the community. The thought of Wheatman drooling all over Valerie-the-bunny is embarrassing (if that's getting lucky,' as he put it, he really is in sad shape).

I suggest that you help your writers to report their experiences with more sensitivity and depth, The woman Wheatman described was completely one-dimensional. In an attempt at humor, he declared that her superficial attributes were all that mattered and that anybody who liked Valerie for her mind (or personality) was a "poor deluded person." The Tech has some serious problems with consistency if it prints this low-level drivel beside analyses of the proposed pornography amendment to Cambridge's Human Rights Ordinance.

Bublu Thakur '87

Humansities forum called for

To the Editor:

When I was a freshman I met my first writing major at MIT and I noticed something odd in my attitude. I thought he had made some sort of mistake. When he told me that he actually knew someone who had come to MIT to major in writing, I was even more amazed. Even after the explanation that the writing applicant had wanted a good science background and liked MIT, I thought "what a poor sod."

Two years later, I was talking to some first-year student in my German class. When I told them I was taking only "humanities" classes that term they were shocked. One even explained to me that I had come to the wrong school. Another student later asked me if I was fulfilling requirements?

The question is why do people feel that studying humanities is not a good reason to be at MIT? The typical answer from people at home, people at other colleges, MIT students, MIT faculty and some advisors (it is that MIT is an institute of technology and people know of its scientific and engineering emphasis before they arrive here.

What happens when a student comes to MIT thinking that he or she wants to be an engineer and then decides that she or he doesn't want that? Should the student transfer?

I want to point out that there are people at MIT interested in music, writing, economics, political science, linguistics, philosophy, urban studies, visual arts, etc. The attitude that these kinds of (Please see in page 9)"